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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/491,949	01/26/2000	Salim G Kara	45923-P004CP1C1-09908772	9277

29053 7590 05/09/2006

DALLAS OFFICE OF FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.  
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EXAMINER

BASS, JON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3639

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/491,949	KARA, SALIM G	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jon Bass	3639	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-11 and 13-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-11 and 13-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

Notice to Applicant

Due to newly obtained prior art the finality of the last Office Action dated November 07, 2005 has been withdrawn.

Response to Amendment

In amendment filed on February 24, 2006, the following has occurred: Claims 1,7 and 13-16 have been amended. Claims 8 and 12. have been canceled. Now claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-19 are present for examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christopher B. Wright et al (US Patent 4,802,218), hereinafter reference as Wright in view of David L. Block (US Patent 6,010,156) hereinafter referred to as Block.

**As Per Claim 1:**

Wright et al. teaches a system for printing postage comprising:

- A general-purpose processor based system having a postage printing application program operable thereon, (see column 4, lines 51-65; postage metering terminal);
- A general purpose printer coupled to said general purpose processor based system, (see abstract; postage is printed once execution between the card microprocessor and the printer microprocessor); and
- A postage storage device coupled to said purpose processor based system having postage value credit stored therein, wherein said general purpose processor based system retrieves an amount of postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps, wherein said postage storage device comprises an expansion card coupled to a host processor based system, (see column 3, lines 25-36; microprocessor operates to confirm transaction in the value dispensing section, dispensing section microprocessor actuate dispensing of requested of value).

*Wright et al fails to explicitly teach:*

- A sheet having plurality of transfer sections thereon, wherein said postage printing application controls said general purpose processor based system and said general purpose printer to substantially simultaneously print a plurality of postage meter stamps on said sheet.

However, Block teaches in one particular preferred embodiment, in regard to figure 1 also see details, a perforated strip of self-adhesive labels. The strip has a continuous roll (multiple fields) divided into equally spaced sections by perforations. This essentially displays the printing process of stamps on a sheet. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include postage printing application that has the functionality of printing a plurality of postage onto a sheet (label) as taught by Block with the motivation of printing a plurality of postage meter stamps on a sheet.

**As Per Claim 2:**

**Wright does not explicitly discloses:**

The system wherein a first postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps is printed on a first transfer section of said plurality of transfer sections and a second postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps is printed on a second transfer section of said plurality of transfer sections. However Block discloses a label for bearing a postal service approved postage indicia, to be used on a single item to be mailed and uses the computer to driven printer to print the postage indicia on the label, located in the abstract. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include postage printing on a transfer section (label) as taught by

Block with the motivation of printing a plurality of postage meter stamps on a sheet.

**As Per Claim 3:**

**Wright does not explicitly discloses:**

- The system wherein at least one of said postage meter stamps includes a date by which an item bearing said postage meter stamp must be posted. However Wright does discloses in column 5, lines 1-5 that additional labels bearing other information can be added. This implies that specific data, such as the date can be added to the label.

**As Per Claim 4:**

**Wright discloses:**

- The system wherein at least one of said postage meter stamps includes a location from which an item bearing said postage meter stamp is to be posted, [see column 4, lines 51-65; terminal identification number].

**As Per Claim 5:**

**Wright discloses:**

- The system wherein at least one said postage meter stamps includes a sender's zip code, [see column 4, lines 51-65; senders zip code].

**As Per Claim 6:**

Wright discloses:

- The system wherein at least one said postage meter stamps includes a recipient's zip code, [see column 4, lines 64-65; recipient address label].

**As Per Claim 7:**

Wright et al. teaches a system for printing postage comprising:

- A general-purpose processor based system having a postage printing application program operable thereon, (see column 4, lines 51-65; postage metering terminal);
- A general purpose printer coupled to said general purpose processor based system, (see abstract; postage is printed once execution between the card microprocessor and the printer microprocessor); and

*Wright et al fails to explicitly teach:*

- A sheet having plurality of transfer sections thereon, wherein said postage printing application controls said general purpose based system and said general purpose printer to substantially simultaneously print a plurality of postage meter stamps on said sheet, wherein a first postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps is printed on a first transfer section of said plurality of transfer sections and a second postage meter

stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps is printed on a second transfer sections of said plurality of transfer sections wherein at least one of said postage meter stamps includes an expiration date of postage device.

However, Block teaches in one particular preferred embodiment, in regard to figure 1 also see details, a perforated strip of self-adhesive labels. The strip has a continuous roll (multiple fields) divided into equally spaced sections by perforations. This essentially displays the printing process of stamps on a sheet. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include postage printing application that has the functionality of printing a plurality of postage onto a sheet (label) as taught by Block with the motivation of printing a plurality of postage meter stamps on a sheet.

**As Per Claim 9:**

Wright discloses:

- The system wherein at least one of said postage meter stamps includes a unique identification of said postage storage device, [see column 6, lines 42-44; serial number to confirm that the card is authorized].

**As Per Claim 10:**

Wright discloses:



- The system wherein said unique identification of said postage storage device is a serial number; see column 6, lines 42-44; serial number to confirm that the card is authorized].

**As Per Claim 11 and 14 and 15 and 16:**

Wright et al. teaches a system for printing postage comprising:

- A general-purpose processor based system having a postage printing application program operable thereon, (see column 4, lines 51-65; postage metering terminal);
- A general purpose printer coupled to said general purpose processor based system, (see abstract; postage is printed once execution between the card microprocessor and the printer microprocessor); and
- A postage storage device coupled to said purpose processor based system having postage value credit stored therein, wherein said general purpose processor based system retrieves an amount of postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps, wherein said postage storage device comprises a touch memory utility button, (see column 3, lines 25-36; microprocessor operates to confirm transaction in the value dispensing section, dispensing section microprocessor actuate dispensing of requested of value and figure 12, see details).

*Wright et al fails to explicitly teach:*

- A sheet having plurality of transfer sections thereon, wherein said postage printing application controls said general purpose based system and said general purpose printer to substantially simultaneously print a plurality of postage meter stamps on said sheet, wherein a first postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps is printed on a first transfer section of said plurality of transfer sections and a second postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps is printed on a second transfer sections of said plurality of transfer sections wherein at least one of said postage meter stamps includes an expiration date of postage device.

However, Block teaches in one particular preferred embodiment, in regard to figure 1 also see details, a perforated strip of self-adhesive labels. The strip has a continuous roll (multiple fields) divided into equally spaced sections by perforations. This essentially displays the printing process of stamps on a sheet. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include postage printing application that has the functionality of printing a plurality of postage onto a sheet (label) as taught by Block with the motivation of printing a plurality of postage meter stamps on a sheet.

**As Per Claim 13:**

Wright does not explicitly discloses:

- The system wherein said expansion card is PCMCIA card but however Wright does disclose in figure 1 a microprocessor card which can used an expansion card.

**As Per Claim 17:**

**Wright fails to explicitly disclose:**

- The system wherein each postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps includes a graphical security interface. However Block mentions that in column 1, lines 20-22 that conventional postage meters include postal security device. It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine Wright's invention, that discloses a transaction system that maintains an account balance and prints the postage from a printer that is connected to a microprocessor, with Blocks invention that discloses a postage meter that includes a security device with motivation of emulating an invention that deals with a plurality of postage meters that includes a touch memory utility button.

**As Per Claim 18:**

**Wright fails to explicitly disclose:**

- The system wherein said graphical security interface is a two dimensional bar code. However Block discloses a two dimensional bar code in figure 3A element 319 that represents the security interface. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art

of the time of the invention to combine Wright and Block to form an invention that is a transaction system that maintains an account balance and prints the postage from a printer that is connected to a microprocessor in conjunction with Blocks' invention that deals with a two dimensional device that is used as a security interface, with motivation of constructing an invention that is able to print postage stamps, monitor the account balance and use the two dimensional bar code as an interface.

**As Per Claim 19:**

**Wright fails to explicitly disclose:**

- The system wherein at least one postage meter stamp of said plurality of postage meter stamps is printed independent of the creation of mail piece to be posted using said at least one postage meter stamp. However Block mentions in column 1, lines 22-32, that following printing of the integrated field of labels for the item to be mailed, the labels are separated and applied to the item. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art of the time of the invention to combine Wright and Block to form an invention that is a transaction system that maintains an account balance and prints the postage from a printer that is connected to a microprocessor in conjunction Blocks' invention which discloses plurality of printing devices printing stamps, with motivation of having an invention that is able to use a

postage meter system that is equipped with the touch memory utility device to make the system more efficient.

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. The applicants arguments that have been filed have been considered moot due to the addition of new prior art.

### ***Conclusion***

Any concerns in regard to this communication, the examiner **Jon Bass** can be reached at **(571) 272-6905** between the hours of **9-6pm Monday through Friday**. The fax number for the establishment where the application is being process is **(571) 273-8300**.

If an attempt to reach the examiner is unsuccessful for any reason, the examiner's immediate supervisor, **John Hayes** can be reached at **(571) 272-6708**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see [http:// pair-direct.uspto.gov](http://pair-direct.uspto.gov). Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-271-9197 (toll free).

Application/Control Number: 09/491,949  
Art Unit: 3639

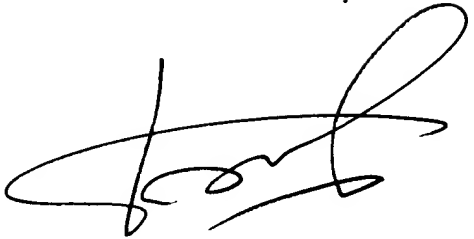
Page 13

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

C/O Technology Center 3600

Washington, D.C. 20231

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Igor N. Borissov', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

IGOR N. BORISSOV  
PRIMARY EXAMINER .